

# THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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## THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND AUGUST.

THE Protector of Immigrants at Avoca reports that the Indian labourers in that town are subject to the peculiar failing of 'night blindness.' There is no accounting for this, unless it be that the men are in the habit of closing the entrance of their cottages each time they kindle a fire. The smoke arising from the damp firewood fills the place, having no vent for escape, and by its action partially destroys the eye-sight. Another cause may be the glare of the light as it strikes upon the sand plains in the neighbourhood.

A GREAT deal will be said, writes a London paper at Berlin, with reference to an incident at Bucharest, which is reported from Vienna. At the celebration of the French National Fete, M. de Coutouly, the French Minister to Roumania, appeared in the room in company with the Secretary of the Russian Legation, and made a speech (after taking wine), in which he said that the Republic was preparing for a sanguinary war which would prove more formidable the longer it was delayed. M. de Coutouly then clinked glasses with the Russian Secretary, and the Frenchmen present broke out into joyous cries in honour of "Russia, the friend of France." This is ominous.

THE *Cologne Gazette* publishes a report, coming from "a good financial authority in Paris," to the effect that "negotiations are going on between the Russian Government on the one hand and the Credit Lyonnais Banque de Paris on other, respecting a new Russian loan of 500,000,000 frs. in gold. The Rothschild firm still holds aloof; but it is expected that it will not continue to do so much longer. In that case our financial circles will look for fresh attempts to create in Paris a big market for Russian Government securities. Hitherto no such market exists, except in name, and the prices there quoted are merely the echo of the quotation in Berlin and London." Russia wants money to carry on her military operations; and France has money, but she wants a strong ally to wreak her vengeance on Germany. This is just the time for the two countries to be closely united with each other. France has, in the matter of the Bulgarian difficulty, sided with Russia; Germany also is trying to forward her views. But France is ready to advance the sinews of war, and so the Bear and the Eagle may soon be seen to act in concert in continental politics.

HERE is a curious illustration of how Married Woman's Property Act is working in England. A case decided, says an English paper, by the Court of Appeal recently illustrated the fact that a married woman is not yet quite in the position of an unmarried woman or of a man, with regard to legal obligations. A married woman, carrying on business as a milliner, was supplied with wines and spirits upon her own order to the value of £17-10s. The creditor sued her without knowing whether the business, which was carried on under a name different from that of the defendant, belonged to her or to her husband. He hoped, apparently, to obtain judgment and to execute it against whatever property the defendant might have; but it was decided that it was incumbent on the plaintiff to prove that the defendant was possessed of separate property at the time when the contract was made, and that, if he failed to do so, the contract would not bind her separate property. Every loophole is sought to defeat the law, even by the courts of the country. This shows that public opinion is not yet sufficiently ripe to improve a woman's legal position, and that she is still subject to many disabilities which modern ideas of marital rights cannot yet remove.

AN amusing story comes from St. Petersburg about the Jubilee dinner, says the *Overland Mail*. Sir R. Morier presided, and a good many distinguished Russians were present. When the Ambassador had proposed the toast of the Army and Navy, a lieutenant in our navy, who shall be nameless, was called upon to respond for his service. This he did with great aplomb and a cool reliance on the friendly feelings of the foreign guests, which was delightfully British. His leading sentiment was

that whatever criticisms might be passed on the British navy, it was, in his opinion, "able to whack any other navy in the world." The Ambassador fidgeted and looked black, blue, and green, but the jolly navy man went on developing this patriotic theme, with innocent unconsciousness of the tempest he was creating in the breasts of his hearers. He scored a triumph in sensation, and the scene is said to have been ludicrous, but we expect the naval orator had a bad quarter of an hour afterwards, when he came to receive the felicitations of the *chancelleries*.

TUESDAY, 23RD AUGUST.

M. PASTEUR having consented to become a candidate for the office of permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences—so long filled by his master and friend, Dumas—the other candidates have withdrawn their applications, and he will be elected unanimously.

THE following officers of the North-Western Provinces have been appointed by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to sit on the Central Examination Committee of that province:—The Accountant-General, the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, the Commissioner of Stamps and Excise, the Inspector General of Police, the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department, the Director of Public Instruction, the Secretary of the Revenue Department, the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, the Commissioner of Jhansi, and the Legal Remembrancer. The Junior Member of the Board of Revenue is to be President of the Committee, and the Under-Secretary in the Judicial Department the Secretary to the Committee.

THE total capital expenditure on Indian Railways up to the end of last year amounted to £178,370,776. Of this, the East Indian absorbed £35,644,523, and the North-Western £29,409,767. The expenditure on guaranteed lines amounted to £57,237,830, and is converted into sterling at the contract rates of exchange. The total amount of capital raised by various guaranteed and assisted companies and by imperial lines worked by companies was £65,922,452. The highest rate of interest paid is 5 per cent, the lowest  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , the average being about 4 per cent. Of the number of persons employed on the various railways in India, more than 95 out of every 100, are natives, Europeans being generally reserved for the higher offices.

THE Government of India have approved a plan for the defence of the Hooghly. Quickfiring and heavy guns are to be mounted, and a torpedo boat purchased.

'THE method of Despatch writing,' says *Allen's Indian Mail*, 'has considerably altered since the time when Cæsar informed the Roman Senate of his victory in three brief words. Coming to later times Commanders have been a little more prolix, but even the Waterloo Despatch, and that telling of the victory of the Alma, are not exhaustively long. But what is to be said of the Burma despatches which occupy column upon column of close type in the Indian newspapers? Such a comprehensive record of services rendered has seldom been given to the world; to republish it in its entirety would be more than we dare attempt in this paper, and to summarise it might be to daub the lily and adulterate refined gold. Every body is praised in the Burma despatches, and every body ought to be satisfied. Everybody but the police, who are not mentioned; but a separate Despatch may be forthcoming on their behalf.' The grey goose quill often usurps, in the political world of the present day, the functions of the bayonet and the sword. The flourish of the steel pen is more effective now than the flourish of the trumpet.

TRUTH says:—'The papers continue to indulge in rigmorale guessing about the amount of the Court expenses in connection with the Jubilee. The *World* gives £100,000, the *Pall Mall Gazette* £200,000, and a "London Correspondent" £80,000. I stated a fortnight ago that the Queen's outlay will not exceed £50,000, and I have since heard from unexceptional authority that £47,000 is about the total. There is not the slightest foundation for the unjustifiable report that the Queen was desirous of obtaining a Parliamentary grant towards this outlay,

There is a large accumulation from the Civil List, and it was long ago settled that everything was to be paid out of this. It should be remembered by people who talk wildly of £100,000 that the Royalties from abroad were only the Queen's guests for a few days, and that there were no extra entertainments except half-a-dozen State banquets, one ball, and the Buckingham Palace garden party. The most preposterous exaggerations have been published in connection with the arrangements, one imaginative journal going the length of announcing that fifty clerks had been employed by the Master of the Household at Buckingham Palace. All the stories, too, about the re-decoration and refurnishing of the Palaces are myths, as hardly anything was done beyond the ordinary routine work.'

WEDNESDAY, 24TH AUGUST.

THE number of Munsiffs or subordinate judicial officers in Bengal on the effective list, appears at present to be about 250, of whom about 75 are in the first grade, drawing Rs. 400 a month; 65 in the second grade, on Rs. 300; 65 also in the third, on Rs. 250; and about 45 in the fourth grade, drawing Rs. 200 a month. In addition to this number, about 19 officers have lately been appointed *pro tem*, in conformity with the sanction of the Secretary of State, owing presumably, to the increase of rent cases in the mufassil. Some 31 officers, selected from the general list of candidates, are also employed now temporarily to relieve those permanent Munsiffs who proceed on short leave, making altogether a total of Rs. 300.

FOUR miles of the Bolan Railway have been washed away by floods. The damage is estimated at half-a-lakh of rupees, and will take a month to repair.

ON Thursday night, about 15 minutes to 8, a lovely meteor shot across the sky, taking its direction from about North-West to West. It first burst from the sky in the form of a thin streak of blue light, and rapidly increased in volume in the course of its downward descent, leaving quite a spray of stars in its track. It ended in drawing itself up into a ball of perfect beauty and brilliancy, which, as soon as formed, fell to the earth and broke into a thousand splinters. It seemed to have left the heavens somewhere above the Paper Mills, and to have finally burst in the earth somewhere in the vicinity of the Husseinabad Clock Tower.—*Lucknow Express*. The fairy city has been probably dreaming of fairy sisters in meteoric shapes.

'MR. Eardley Norton,' says the *Law Times*, 'the Lion of the Madras Bar, has gone to Hyderabad in a big civil suit, receiving a fee of 30,000 rupees. This is the biggest fee we have heard of, since the days of John Bruce Norton and John Dawson Mayne.'

THE *Rajkot Chiefs' College*:—There are four Chiefs' Colleges in India, at Ajmere, Lahore, Indore and Rajkot (in Kathiawar). The last one contains nearly a hundred students. At Ajmere, the teaching and disciplinary staff are distinct; at Rajkot, they are identical. At Ajmere, the students reside in separate buildings, belonging to their own States; at Rajkot, all reside in the same building, but in separate sets of rooms, as at Oxford and Cambridge. This has a happy result in bringing together and reconciling Princes of different castes, and thus in extinguishing hereditary jealousies.'

THE *Madras Times* says:—'In spite of all that has been said to the contrary, and notwithstanding the diplomatic settlement of the Afghan Boundary question, serious complications are to be apprehended from the state of affairs in Afghanistan. It is known that Russia has secretly given substantial assistance to the Afghan rebels, especially to those in the neighbourhood of Herat and the northern frontiers. It is an open secret that the Government of India regards a Russian *coup de main* as imminent. Great activity prevails at Quetta and Peshin, on the frontier railways. Large quantities of grain, stores and ammunition are being collected on the frontier, as secretly and rapidly as possible; and it is reported that heads of departments, throughout India, have been ordered to furnish returns of available men and materials without delay.'

THURSDAY, 25TH AUGUST.

GOETHE, says a contemporary, 'was a pantheist. Rousseau had inculcated in him Nature's religion. In his last days he lived under the influence of the seasons. He felt the winds, he interrogated the clouds; he marked the flight of the birds to shape his line of conduct. The scent of Nature which he inhaled from the French writers of the eighteenth century is accentuated in weather and in the elective affinities. To this preoccupation of telluric influences was joined a spirit of superstition in Goethe, which betrayed itself in all manner of fancies, and of which an anecdote transmitted to us carries a singular proof. At the famous interview of Erfurt the Emperor Napoleon offered him his portrait and the brevet of the Legion d' Honneur. This miniature, which hung for long next to his bed-room mirror, had become an object of particular devotion for Goethe. Came at last the catastrophe of Waterloo. He would not believe it. The rumour gained ground, and yet he was obstinate, chiding the visitors who had no shame to hawk about a like gossip. Soon it was evening. He went up to bed and sought the portrait. It had fallen to the ground. His candle in hand Goethe remained mute a moment, and whilst his secretary stooped to pick it up, he said, "What means this accident but that this morning's news is too true!"

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Civil and Military Gazette* thus speaks of Punjab secret societies. 'The Dervishes or Fakeers are a numerous and powerful fraternity of Mahomedan monks whose ramifications extend all over Asia, a great portion of Africa, and to Turkey in Europe. They are most numerous and influential, of course, at all great Mahomedan centres. But even in British India they are plentiful and dangerous enough, and are England's worst enemies, ever trying to inspire the Mahomedan population with a hatred of Christian rule. And what they can effect in this respect, when opportunity offers, is exemplified by recent events in the Soudan province of Egypt, and former atrocious and bloody occurrences during the Cabul massacre, and the great Indian Mutiny and revolt of 1857-58. It is a dangerous game to make political use of conflicting religious fanatics against each other, but a time may come in India when circumstances may render it imperatively necessary. Therefore the ruling power should keep itself *au fait* with the peculiar and distinctive aims, objects and aspirations of each of these, and judiciously direct and utilise them accordingly.' As we said before a strict watch ought to be kept over these secret societies. These so-called Fakirs wield immense influence with the people. This is especially the time when their movements should be closely watched.

THE whole of the United States has been agitated by a proposition of President Cleveland to return to the Southern States the bullet-torn flags that were captured from them in the Civil war. 'A Western politician pronounced a solemn curse on the President, and the excitement became so great that the obnoxious order was rescinded. The national vanity was exhibited by those men in Boston wreaking their ill-will on an old British relic. Some years ago the Bostonian Society, with a veneration for ancient memorials, obtained permission to replace on the State House the Royal Arms of England, which had been removed in the Revolution. Some ultra patriots objected, when the mouldy and rust-covered emblem was brought out of a cellar and restored to its old place of honour; but no action was taken till "the Republic for ever" was made a watchword by President Cleveland's ill advised order. That set true-born Federals on the war-path, and a few of them in Boston, hearing sounds of revelry in a house where the English residents with some American guests had assembled to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, went off with ropes to pull down the Lion and the Unicorn. The structure was more substantial than they supposed, and they had not made much progress when the police interrupted them.' Brother Jonathon is at times tough metal to deal with. Twenty Clevelands will not be able to induce him to trample under foot the glorious associations of the Civil war.

INTELLIGENCE from the Salt Lake City announces the death of John Taylor, the President of the Mormon Church and chief of the Mormon Twelve Apostles. The deceased President, unlike his predecessors, Smith and Young, was not an American, having been born at Milnthorpe, in Westmoreland. He emigrated to Canada when 22. When the Mormons were harassed by the police last year, Taylor, who was a polygamist, kept in hiding. He professed to have received frequent revelations. According to one of his prophecies, New York has only seven more years of grace.

His Excellency the Viceroy is expected to open the Dufferin Bridge at Benares early in December next.

FRIDAY, 26TH AUGUST.

M. NICHOLAS NOTOVITCH thus speaks of the power which M. Katkoff, the Newspaper Emperor of Russia, wielded in his country. 'I have great pleasure in sending you a short account of Michel Katkoff. I have the more pleasure in writing about him as Katkoff was to England, what Gladstone is to Russia, both having the same peaceful policy. Passing over the general incidents of his career, I will merely describe briefly the important role he recently played in Russian affairs, and the meaning of his politics. We have often seen State dignitaries sent to him from St. Petersburg to consult with him on affairs of State; and the Czar never adopted any great plans or projects without first consulting Katkoff. Even the education of the present heir, Nicholas, was carried out on Katkoff's plans; and the professors were all appointed after having been chosen and recommended by him. The tokens of confidence on the part of the Czar did him more honour than the unanimous praise of the Council of Ministers. For instance when recently it was decided at a meeting of the ministry to pass a bill by which the people would have had to pay many millions into the pockets of the manufacturers, Katkoff came forward with a small article in which he pointed out the heavy loss that would accrue to the people. The result was that the decision of the Council was annulled by the Czar, and the things remained as they were. Three months before his death he had the Finance Minister changed, and Vishnegraski chosen by his advice. I must confess that Katkoff was not friendly to England; for he considered her accessory to the political intrigues carried on in Europe against Russia. Nevertheless he it was who advised the Czar to obtain for the wife of the heir of all the Russias a Princess of England (actually the eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales) rather than any German Princess; for a German connexion must necessarily result in the Russian policy towards Germany being guided by pure sentiment.'

MR. D. L. MOODY, of Moody and Sankey fame, has been, we read, urgently pressed to plan an evangelistic tour in India, and the English friend, who has suggested the same, has shown his sincerity by sending a cheque for £5,000 towards the expenses. India and Indians beware! The redoubtable Mr. Moody may soon be expected amongst us. Rs. 50,000 goes a long way in such matters. M. Pasteur's agent is also coming to India. So what with Mr. Moody's preachings and experiments for the cure of hydrophobia, and similar other blood-stirring things, our countrymen will have a busy time of it in the cold-weather.

PROFESSOR Tyndall in a letter to the *Times*, thus speaks of Mr. Gladstone:—"A desperate gamester, misnamed a statesman, has chosen to invoke ignorant foreign opinion against the instructed opinion of his own countrymen." The following lines from *Punch*, on the same subject, will amply repay perusal:—

(To a Wandering Star)

Tyndall, Tyndall, learned star,  
How we wonder where you are!  
Fizzing up like penny pop,  
Coming down on Gladstone flop!  
"Desperate gamester" Tyndall mine,  
Such invective is not fine.  
Have you not a card to trump,  
Rattling Rando'ph on the stump?  
Science in her calm retreat  
Ought that sort of bosh to beat;  
She, whose words should drop like gold,  
Must not ape an angry scold.  
Party scribes who rage for pay,  
When most rabid write that way,  
Politicians of the pot  
Perpetrate this sort of rot.  
Just suppose that W. G.,  
Fancying your remarks too free,  
Dubbed you, in polemic rage,  
"Sciolist misnamed a sage."  
How you savants would cry "shame!"  
Why should Science only claim  
Right to be exceeding rude,  
Sourly false, and coarsely crude?  
"Wicked! Coward!" Oh, bless us  
Hercules in the shirt of Nessus,  
Did not rage in wilder fashion  
Than our Tyndall in a passion.  
Difference exists no doubt;  
Let us calmly fight it out;  
But to call each other names,  
Is the vilest of games.  
Honestly one view you hold;  
If to differ one makes bold,  
Is it fair, Sir, to infer,  
That he's rascal, traitor, cur?  
Pooh! That's Party's puerile plan,  
Wisdom, Sir, should pay the man,  
Drop these tart polemic pennings,  
Leave that sort of stuff to Jennings.

Mr. Tyndall will rejoice at the notoriety he has achieved.

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SATURDAY, 27TH AUGUST.

THE Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces invited, in May last, the Council of the Morris Memorial College to consider whether they were justified in maintaining that Institution as an A. College, in view of the facts that their proper funds are admittedly no longer adequate to do this efficiently, that further contributions from Government and District or Municipal funds cannot safely be counted on, and that there is already in Nagpur, apart from the Morris College, sufficient provision made for high literary education. He suggested that, if the subscribers could see their way to devoting the income of their endowments to technical Education, a scheme might be devised, which would fully meet their desire to perpetuate Sir J. Morris's name, and at the same time supply a manifest defect in the provincial system of education. 'To me,' says the Chief Commissioner, 'in view of the early opening of the Province by Railways with their workshops for wood and iron; of the Mills and Cotton Presses which are springing up in towns and sub-divisions; of the vast forest estates of the Government, its feudatories and zamindars, which are now being ruined for want of skilled management; of the incalculable losses inflicted on the cultivating classes by cattle disease every year; of the need of improved Courts to deal with the growing complications of social life—to me, I say, the establishment of an Institution for teaching such things as Surveying, Engineering and the use of tools, Agricultural and Veterinary Science, and Law, appeared to be an object which the Council and subscribers of the Morris College would honour themselves by cordially adopting as their own.'

It has now been definitely proposed that the Morris College should for the future teach (A) Law, (B) Practical Agriculture, and (C) Engineering. Any thing to prevent capacity for English writing! Mr. Jones has got a worthy successor.

THE new scheme is estimated to require an expenditure of Rs. 919 a month. There will be some further necessary expenditure on contingencies which may bring the total ordinary charges up to Rs. 1,000 or a little more. The Government will give a monthly grant sufficient, when added to their own income *plus* any contribution which the Nagpur Municipality may sanction, to enable them to meet all their liabilities under the scheme.

THE Chief Commissioner has promised to lay it down as a rule of the Administration that preference shall be given to students holding diplomas of the College for all suitable appointments as Revenue Inspectors, Naib Tahsildars, Managers of Wards' Estates, Public Works Overseers, and foresters.

IN THE *Overland Mail* Mr. King publishes an informal report of the interview with Lord Cross on the subject of the grievances of the Uncovenanted Civil Service, at which he presented a memorial signed by some forty-five members of Parliament. Lord Cross said that the subject was receiving his serious attention and that he intended during the recess to take some steps which he hoped would lead to a practical solution. "We have reason," says the *Overland Mail*, "to believe that a powerful influence in favour of an equitable treatment of the Uncovenanted Service has been developed in the India Council." Sir George Campbell has no sympathy with the members of the European Uncovenanted Service, who have been thus ventilating their grievances in England. Sir George was asked to join in the appeal to Lord Cross, but resolutely refused because he thinks the Uncovenanted Service should be entirely reserved for natives of India. Great influence was brought to bear upon him; but he is not the man to truckle to any body, be he who he may.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE thinks that the only possible solution of the Afghan question is to carry our railway through to Kandahar and Herat, and form a junction with the Russian line coming from the opposite direction. Sir Richard is furthermore of opinion that the Canadian route will have to be used for China, and that the P. and O. contract should have been granted for six instead of ten years.

THE SHAH will start from Teheran at the end of next April on a journey of from five to six months' duration through Russia, Germany, Belgium, England, France, Italy and Austria. His Majesty proposes to visit the principal industrial establishments of these countries.

THE Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces is of opinion that a properly regulated system of out-stills is the best protection against illicit importation and manufacture in all outlying tracts, and that, when they are properly regulated, and their number and the number of dependent shops duly limited, they do not necessarily stimulate consumption.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.  
(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)  
(SESSION 1887-8.)

LECTURE by Babu Ashutosh Mukerjee, M. A., F. R. A. S., F. R. S. E., To-day the 29th Inst., at 3½ P. M.

Subject: Analytical Geometry: General Cartesian Equation of Lines of Second Order in relation to their Foci, Asymptotes and Eccentricity.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday the 30th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Action of Voltaic Electricity on the Magnet; Current Nature of Voltaic Electricity.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. O. S., on Wednesday, the 31st Inst., at 4½ P. M.

Senior Class, Subject: Milk Analysis (continued) Junior Class, Subject: Oxygen and Hydrogen.

LECTURE by Babu Pramatha Nath Bose, B. Sc., F. G. S., on Wednesday, the 31st Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Geology; Denudation; Deposition; Stratification.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 1st September at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Hydrostatics; Pressures in Liquids.

LECTURE by Dr. Rajanikanta Sen, on Friday, the 2nd September at 5½ P. M.

Subject: General Phenomena of Chemical Action; Oxygen and Hydrogen.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Physics under Babu Jagadish Chunder Bose, B. Sc., on Saturday, the 3rd September at 3 P. M.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,  
August 29th, 1887. *Honorary Secretary.*

## The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1887.

### THE ROYAL INDIAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

Compared with previous occasions, the celebration of the sixteenth anniversary of Coopers' Hill College was this year a very lame and poor affair. The absence of the Secretary of State for India considerably marred the interest of the proceedings. Lord Cross pleaded press of public business at the last moment, and did not appear. The chair was taken by Mr. B. W. Currie, the Vice-President of the India Council, and he was supported by some distinguished Anglo-Indians. According to custom the Chairman opened the proceedings by calling for the Report of the College for the past session. Sir A. Taylor, the President of the institution, began by reminding his hearers that it was established in 1871 for the purpose of training engineers for the Indian Public Works Department. The scope of the College was subsequently widened; the institution was converted into an Engineering College for the whole of the United Kingdom and its colonies and dependencies, and it was also required to supply recruits for the Indian Telegraph and Forest Departments. Sir A. Taylor tells us that at present the annual demand stands at:—15 recruits for the Public Works Department; 10 for the Forest Department, and 2 for the Telegraph Department, or a total of 27 men for the Indian Services. The College course for the Public Works candidates lasts three years, that for the Telegraph candidates two years. These new classes of candidates are admitted to the College on passing a fairly easy examination. For the Forest students a competitive examination is annually held in London by the Civil Service Commissioners, and ten candidates are selected and sent to Coopers' Hill to get the special education which is considered necessary for recruits for the Forest Department. These candidates do not compete amongst themselves during their residence at the College. They are sure of being appointed to the Service, provided they do not turn out to be conspicuous failures.

Referring to the work of the past session, Sir A. Taylor, of course, claimed that it has been satisfactory; then he admitted that the Jubilee distractions during the last term, and an application received for supply of Assistant Engineers for the Bengal-Nagpore Railway now under construction, unsettled men's minds and to some

extent checked progress. Fifteen gentlemen have this year received the College diploma of qualification for employment in the Indian Public Works Department. In regard to the students of the first and second years, Sir A. Taylor tells us that in both years the great majority have worked very well. The President also spoke in high terms of the praise of the two Telegraph students. As yet no recruits for the Forest Department have been sent out from Coopers' Hill College. The first set of Forest candidates who are now in the college will pass into the service a few months hence, on the completion of their course of study, which extends over a little more than two years. Sir A. Taylor concluded his report by giving some good advice to the young gentlemen who were about to leave College and join their appointments in India. He gave an interesting account of the services rendered during the Mutiny by the late Hakim Khan of Lora, and remarked: "Last year I told to those gentlemen who were then leaving the College, and many of you were also present at the time, a story of the Mutiny in which a party of men of the servant class showed, under trying circumstances, great pluck and faithfulness in their master's service. Today I have given you the case of a man occupying a higher place in the social scale, who, at a time when he had everything to lose and nothing to gain, for friendship's sake, threw prudence over-board and stuck to his friend. My object to-day is the same that it was last year. It would be a great pleasure to me if I could know that you will all enter on your Indian careers with the feeling that you are about to live amongst people who are susceptible to kindness and are ready to requite considerate treatment with faithful, not to say, devoted service." We earnestly hope that the young gentlemen to whom this valuable advice was given will steadily bear it in mind and act upon it throughout their Indian career. Notwithstanding all that has been said by prejudiced Anglo-Indian writers about the ingratitude of our countrymen, there is no people on the surface of the globe who are so susceptible to kind and considerate treatment as the people of India.

The Chairman, in the course of his short speech, considered it a matter of great gratification that the Coopers' Hill College has become a success and practically self-supporting, and he urged that this is the justification of those who, in the face of considerable opposition, founded the institution some years ago. We cannot, however, forget what the *Engineer*, a professional journal of high authority in England, stated some time ago as to the results of the training given at Coopers' Hill College. It wrote:—"Coopers' Hill turns out educated gentlemen, trained mathematicians, good linguists, admirable draughtsmen, but does not turn out engineers in the full sense of the term." As this statement reflected seriously on General Chesney's management of the College of which he had been the President for nearly 10 years since its establishment, the gallant General considered it due to himself to answer the charge made by the *Engineer*, and he, it will be remembered, was supported by Mr. Andrew Clarke, the first Public Works Member of the Viceroy's Council. General Chesney was, however, obliged to admit that Coopers' Hill does not profess to turn out practical engineers. The significance of this admission cannot be overestimated. It goes without saying that if an engineer is not a practical man he is perfectly useless. A man possessed of unlimited theoretical knowledge, but wanting in practical knowledge, cannot be an engineer in the full sense of the term. If Coopers' Hill exists simply, to use General Chesney's language, "to educate young men of ability and prepare them for becoming engineers," we do not see any justification for its existence. The young Englishmen who come out from Coopers' Hill College learn their business at the expense of the Indian tax-payer. It is all very well to express gratification at the fact that the College has become self-supporting. But we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that up to 1882 when the institution was thrown open to all comers it had cost £317,000 against which there was only to show in the shape of receipts £148,000. We do not wish to discuss here the large question as to whether there was any neces-

sity for the original establishment of the College. Suffice it to say that the institution was formed by the Duke of Argyll, when Secretary of State for India, in the teeth of strong opposition on the part of the Government of Lord Mayo. Now that the speciality of the College has disappeared and it is now an institution for training engineers for the whole of the United Kingdom and its Colonies and dependencies, the amount expended upon it from the Indian revenues ought to be refunded from the Imperial Treasury. There is no earthly reason why the dumb and unrepresented should be made to pay for a College which exists for the benefit of the British Empire as a whole. The members of the India Council who are specially charged with the protection of Indian finances should take up this question in right earnest. The Imperial Treasury, in common fairness, is bound to refund the amount which has so far been expended upon Coopers' Hill College from the Indian revenues.

### PROPOSED BENARES-PURI RAILWAY.

THE Government of India has published the papers relating to the projected Railway from Moghalsarai to Puri, which has for some years been under its consideration. It appears that so far back as 1876-77 the Government recognised the desirability of utilising the Palamow coal-field in Chota Nagpore for the supply of the Railways to the North-West of Moghalsarai. With this object surveys were made between that field and Baroon, the head of the Sone Canal system. The investigations set on foot, however, made it clear that a larger project was required for affording an outlet to east as well as the west, for developing the mineral and agricultural produce of Chota Nagpur, and with the intervention of the contemplated Nagpur-Sitarampur Railway to extend the line to Cuttack and Puri, so as to facilitate the journey of the vast number of pilgrims who annually visit the latter place, and at the same time to provide the people of Orissa with an effective protection against famine, by establishing direct and easy communication between that province and the rich grain-producing country of Chatisgarh in the Central Provinces. The Government of India rightly held that if this project were carried out it would not only afford a quick and easy means of travelling for the vast number of pilgrims who annually visit the shrines of Benares, Gya, and Puri, but would also open out the resources of large and important tracts of country, now almost cut off from communication with the rest of India, and supply them with food in times of famine.

With these objects in view a series of surveys were commenced in the autumn of 1882 and completed by the end of the past year. The surveys have embraced all the more promising alternative routes between Benares and Puri. The project is divided into two portions. The first portion would provide for the development of the province of Chota Nagpur and aiding coal-supply of Upper India, and the second would open out these parts of the Central Provinces and Bengal traversed by the line while both the portions would facilitate the journey of pilgrims to Puri. There would thus be two distinct lines constituting the projected Benares-Puri Railway. The total length of the first portion—the Chota Nagpur Railway—with a branch to Gya, would be 388 miles, and the estimated cost is nearly four and-a-half crores of rupees. The main line, starting from Moghalsarai, would pass through Sasseram, and the Palamow coal-field, and join the Bengal-Nagpur Railway now under construction at Purulia, while the branch line would start from that field and pass through Sherghati to Gya. It is explained that a connection between Gya and the locality of Daltongunge in Chota Nagpur has been from the first accepted as an indispensable accessory to the main project, because of the goods traffic which may reasonably be expected, and also of the pilgrims who would pass on from Gya to Puri in the course of the normal round of sacred places to be visited. As regards probable traffic on the proposed Chota Nagpur Railway, the Government of India admits that it is impossible to present any definite and reliable estimates on this subject of a large

tract of country which at present is unable to export except along country roads and paths, by means of carts and pack bullocks. Various estimates of produce and returns have been put forward; but these are mere guess-work. The fact is, no materials exist for framing even a probable estimate of the quantity and value of the exports or imports of the Chota Nagpur Division. The pilgrim traffic is no doubt an important factor; but the extent and expansion of this traffic it is equally difficult to ascertain and foresee.

We come now to the second portion of the Benares-Puri Railway project. The British Indian Association submitted a representation to Government in favour of the Panchpara-Puri route. The Committee of the Association wrote: "A number of different routes, the Committee are aware, have already been surveyed. But it has been shewn that the Panchpara-Puri route possesses economic and other advantages over those which were previously surveyed. This route, moreover, is specially recommended for the comparatively few engineering difficulties which it presents. Commercially this line will be very profitable, both as regards passenger and goods traffic. All these considerations, therefore, point out this route as the most eligible on economic grounds." We are glad to find that the Government of India has declared in favour of the Panchpara-Puri route. It has been decided to have a station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway at Panchpara, which is about 240 miles west from the junction of that Railway with the East Indian line, and 382 miles east from Nagpore. The distance from Panchpara to Puri is about 231 miles. The line, starting from Panchpara in the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, would pass through Sambalpur and Cuttuck and terminate at Puri. The cost of the Panchpara-Puri Railway is estimated at nearly two and-a-half crores of rupees. As regards probable traffic in this line, the Government of India observes: "The general remarks which have been made with respect to the Chota-Nagpore Railway may be applied to this case also. The capabilities of an undeveloped country can be but imperfectly appraised by statistics of existing traffic. The goods traffic between Sambalpur and Cuttuck appears to be by no means inconsiderable, notwithstanding the absence of roads, and will be subject to large temporary influxes whenever scarcity of food grains may exist in Orissa, while the pilgrims are believed by the local authorities to be not fewer than 300,000 per annum. The opinions of the local authorities as to the prospects of development are unanimously favourable. That so large a number of persons should present themselves at Puri annually notwithstanding the obstacles presented by the journey, whether by land or sea, the ravages of cholera and other diseases in the former, and the risk of shipwreck (just fatally illustrated) on the latter, may well excite surprise, and justify anticipations of what the facilities of railway transit might produce." Of the pilgrims who annually visit Puri, the people of Bengal proper, we have no hesitation in saying, will continue to use the sea-route from Calcutta to Chandbally, and thence the canal route to Cuttuck. Notwithstanding the risk of shipwreck on the sea route, few will abandon it for the sake of the very circuitous route from Calcutta to Assensole, thence to Panchpara, and thence to Puri via Cuttuck. But then to the people of the Central Provinces, and of Northern and Western India the sea-route, we need hardly say, would be extremely circuitous and expensive. They will use the railway in their pilgrimage to the shrine of Juggernath. We are inclined to think that the prospects of the Panchpara-Puri Railway project are much more favourable than those of the proposed line connecting the Palamow coal-field with Maghalsarai. The cost of the former line, as we have said, is estimated at two and-a-half crores of rupees, and the traffic on it is expected to be proportionately much larger than on the latter line. It appears that the Government of Bengal recommended that a line should be built between Panchpara on the Bengal-Nagpore Railway and Sathbarwa station on the Chota-Nagpore Railway and suggested that the construction of the Palamow-Gya line might perhaps suffice for present requirements, leaving for future development the question of a connection between the coal-fields and Maghalsarai—possibly from Sher-

ghati, with a bridge over the Sone, and through Sasseram. If this recommendation were accepted the first portion of the project would have been far less expensive and more profitable. The distance between Panchpara and Palamow is about 180 miles, and a line might have been constructed at a cost of less than two crores of rupees. But Sir Steuart Bayley afterwards changed his mind and represented that by such a line, running north and south, the object of opening out and serving the Chota-Nagpore Division would be foregone, while the pilgrim traffic from Benares and the market for coal presented in that direction would both be sacrificed. For financial reasons it would have been much better if Sir Steuart Bayley had adhered to his first recommendation and the Government of India had accepted it. We hope it is not yet too late to reconsider the matter.

#### SIR RIVERS THOMPSON'S RETROSPECT.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON has eclipsed the Marquess of Dalhousie. He has published a 'Brief Account' of his administration of Bengal four times larger than the valedictory Minute, the famous 'hundred paragraphs,' of the late little great man. Considering that the Minute embraced a period of eight eventful years of a brilliant imperial reign, including the conquests of the Punjab and Burma, the annexation of many kingdoms, the inauguration of a multitude of great works, such as railways and extensive canals, and the 'Brief Account' refers to the Peddling-tonian details of a provincial Government, the difference in size is worthy of remark. It is creditable to the Procursul to have found so much more material of importance to record during a reign of five years, than did the Consul in eight years with a host of proconsuls under him. Captious critics might say that the same difference is observable between the Despatch which announced the victory of Waterloo and the reports which chronicle the brushes we have lately had with the 'Dakaits' of Burma; but the criticism is not worthy of notice. The merit lies in the reporting, and not in the subjects. As Lord Byron once said, a donkey painted by a Raphael is infinitely more valuable than an angel by a signpainter. This, however, suggests the question—have we really before us now the work of a Raphael? The Minute was recorded by a statesman of the highest order, a perfect master of the pen, alike distinguished in the camp and the cabinet, and the 'Brief Account' comes, not from Sir Rivers Thompson whose achievements it rescues from oblivion, but from Mr. Grierson, of the Civil Service, who has yet to win his spurs as an historian, though as a dilettante linguist and compiler of elementary grammars of vernacular dialects he is well known. Nor had he the field all to himself. He acted only as an amanuensis. He was employed on it as 'a special duty' at Rs. 2,000 a month for several months, working under the instructions of Sir Rivers, who took care to "revise" his work so as to put forth the chronicles of his administration in the best light possible. Under the circumstances there can be no fair comparison between the Minute and the 'Brief Account,' and we would not have placed the two in juxtaposition, but for the fact that even as Lord Dalhousie was the first out of nearly a score of Governors General who thought fit to record a valedictory minute, so has Sir Rivers Thompson, as the first of eight Lieutenant-Governors, deemed it proper to emulate him, and thereby forced on us a comparison. Lord Dalhousie entered on his review, 'with the single hope that the Hon'ble Court of Directors may derive from the retrospect some degree of satisfaction with the past, and a still larger measure of encouragement for the future.' Sir Rivers Thompson's hope is, to quote his own words, that his 'note' 'may be of some use to my successor.' In either case the profession is apparently of the same value as the declaration of the author who says he publishes his poem or essay at the request, suggestion, or the advice of his friends. In all such cases the profession in reality is little more than a veil of modesty to set off the naked truth, 'Behold what I have done, and how well I have done it.'

In the days of Lord Dalhousie there was an excuse. It was not usual then to publish annual administration reports, and after a highly successful reign of eight years, during which the area of the empire was nearly doubled, a *resumé* of the events of the period might have been useful to the public, if not to the Court of Directors; but in our times, with bulky annual administration reports bristling with tabular statements, and eked out by equally bulky departmental reports, such a digest for Sir Steuart Bayley, who has been most intimately connected with the province for nearly as long as the writer himself, and had to make special study of the different administrative questions connected with it, the professed object appears to be of a color which cannot stand washing. It would have been useful had it been written for the purpose of justifying disputed measures, or of setting forth a retrospective defence of the policy which prompted them, but nothing of the kind has been attempted. Bare facts have been narrated with the prosiness and endless details which characterise Indian departmental literature, and the reader is left to draw his own conclusions as best he may. Had it come piping hot when the craze for address-giving had been at its height among our Mahomedan friends and others, it might have been of some use, but six months after date we can look upon the work only as a monument of a great deal of public money wasted, or a eulogium on mediocrity and failure. It is admitted by Sir Rivers Thompson, in the introductory note prefixed to the volume, that 'the period under review was not fortunate in the financial and agricultural prosperity which marked the preceding five years.' But much credit is claimed for certain administrative measures which are assumed to make amends for the want of 'financial and agricultural prosperity.' It is said 'the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act alone is sufficient to mark the administration as one in which the first real effort was made to settle upon an equitable basis the relations between the landlords and the tenants in these Provinces; while the measures which come under the head of Local Self-Government have given to the people a much greater interest and a considerable power in the conduct of local affairs.' Bearing in mind the fact that the Bengal Tenancy Act, in its earlier stages, as the Bengal Rent Bill, was the work of Sir Richard Temple and Sir Ashley Eden, that it was placed before the Supreme Government, before Sir Rivers Thompson ascended the Bengal *Masnad*, and that it was in charge of Sir Stuart Bayley when it was carried through the Legislative Council of India, the demand for the credit of it in behalf of Sir Rivers appears rather inconsistent. With equal justice Sir Rivers could claim the credit of the expansion of the Empire by the conquest of Upper Burma. True enough that he took an active part in the Committee which settled the Bill, and, when disabled by ill-health, deputed his Secretary to act for him in the Committee; but that did not in any way bring the merits or demerits of the Act within the sphere of the Bengal administration. As a member of the Legislative Council of India it was his duty to cooperate with his colleagues, and he did no more. Certain it is that when the Bill was passed he, from his place in the Council, denounced it as an imperfect measure which would necessitate early revision. Equally certain it is that the Act as passed was found unworkable, and had to be mended by fresh legislation even before it was brought into operation. Sir Rivers is very careful in the use of his words. He does not venture to assert that the Act has done any good, but contents himself by saying that it marks the administration as one in which 'the first real effort was made to settle on an equitable basis the relations between the landlords and tenants.' As we have already said the 'administration' has no claim whatever to the credit. The phrase 'the first real effort' suggests the idea that Lord Canning and his colleagues, Sir John Peter Grant and Sir Barnes Peacock, did not make a 'real effort,' but made a false, make-believe one when they passed the Rent law, the Act X of 1858. As to the equity in the case, the landlords know and feel that the right which had been vested in them by the Permanent Settlement, and which they had enjoyed undisturbed for a century has been taken

away from them by sure *vis major*, and that the most obnoxious clauses of the Act which pinch them most unmercifully, came from the suggestions of Sir Rivers Thompson.

Equally groundless is the claim put forth by Sir Rivers Thompson to the credit of initiating 'the measures which come under the head of Local Self Government.' It is notorious that the idea of those measures came from Lord Ripon, whose liberal instincts prompted him everything that was good and great and noble, and Sir Rivers had no share in that. He could not openly oppose the measures in the face of the wiggling that had been administered to the Bombay Government for open opposition, but he did all and every thing he could to emasculate the measures, to defeat their object, to convert them into a parody of what Lord Ripon wished they should be. He delayed them as long as he could, and passed them only when Lord Ripon was long away from the country, and nobody would effectually take exception to what he did. His zeal for Local Self-Government is best exemplified by the active warfare he kept up with the Calcutta Corporation with a view to catharsize them from the last trace of independence and self-respect, and the Bill which he tried hard to pass, but owing to certain adverse circumstances could not, is designed to deprive them of all power and influence, and convert them into a body of buffers. It is indeed amusing to note the way in which he has now put forth his claims in regard to them.

The validity of Sir Rivers' claims to most of the other improvements which have taken place in Bengal during the last five years is equally open to question. Sir Rivers congratulates himself on the progress of the Vernacular Press. The circulation of Bengali newspapers was limited before to hundreds; it is now reckoned by many thousands. The fact is patent enough; but is that due to the Government which year after year denounced them as vile, low, scurrilous and fit only to be suppressed? Even in the valedictory address we are told, 'Regarding the tone of the native newspapers it is a matter for deep regret that a press, which might be potent for good and an assistance to the Government of the country, is too often prone to misrepresentation and abuse.' It is doubtful if this language be calculated to encourage the vernacular press; but in this we may be mistaken. The old adage has it,

"A spaniel, a wife, and a walnut tree  
The more they are beaten the better they be;"

and it might be that in the version of the adage current in the Bengal Office, the 'walnut tree' has been replaced by native press, walnut trees being unknown in the littoral of this province.

But we need not multiply instances. The opinion we expressed in our review of Sir Rivers Thompson's administration at the time of his departure from Bengal we hold still. Nothing has since been published to show that we were in any way mistaken in our estimate of his character, and the "Brief Account" now published by himself is in no way calculated to bring on a change.

#### A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT.

OUR Little Peddlingtonians have been very much exercised of late about the official position of their Collector. Having nothing more important to do in these piping times of peace, and their master of the birch-rod-notoriety having left the country for good, in the very exuberance of their freedom, they started, in June last, the question 'whether Mr. O. C. Dutt, the Collector of the Corporation, was a servant of that body, or not?' To the outside public the question would no doubt seem absurd on the face of it. A person employed on a certain duty for a consideration, by a vote of the Corporation and the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and bearing the official designation of Collector, which post is especially named in the Municipal Act among the different offices which would be subject to certain special forms of appointment, would naturally appear to be as much a servant of the Municipality as the Secretary or any other officer who is appointed under that rule. But the person in question wishes to avoid the responsibility. To call oneself a servant of the Municipality is to subject oneself to the

claws of the Penal Code, to make oneself liable to criminal prosecution for illegal gratifications and other pickings and perquisites. Far be it from us to 'insinuate' any impropriety of the kind in regard to Mr. Dutt. He is too thorough a gentleman to be open to the smallest breath of aspersion of the kind; but he cannot be unaware of the legal consequences, of his admission as a servant. If he is a servant, so are the officers placed under him, but if he be not, his collecting Sarkars would be less so, and then they can in perfect safety receive *parvani*, accept considerations for deferring collections, and sweat the collections to their profit without any risk of a criminal prosecution. It is natural, therefore, that both as a matter of personal dignity and a safety-valve for his people he should disown servitude, and that those who like to benefit the Corporation should urge otherwise. The corporators who took the latter view were strong, both in number and in argument, and it was early evident that any attempt to take the bull by the horn would be ineffectual. Evasion was, therefore, the tactics which seemed most promising to the friends of Mr. Dutt. The Hon'ble Dr. Mahendralala Sarkar wanted to snuff out the question by declaring it out of order, and the Hon'ble Kalinath Mitter had the bogey of the pension rules to frighten his colleagues. The latter said, if you decide the question in the affirmative you would bring in the Collector and his host of Sarkars on the graded list for pension. The Chairman thought 'it was a very unprofitable question to discuss,' 'in fact it was a mere waste of time to do so,'—a mere quibble to talk about. This exposition of the matter had the desired effect. It produced a wide breach in the ranks of the malcontents, and on a motion of Hon'ble Kalinath Mitter, declaring that the Collector was not a servant of the Municipality was carried by 10 against 5, a motion by Babu Amritanath Mitter, suggesting that the opinion of the Advocate General be taken being lost. All this, however, did not discourage the malcontents. They felt that they had lost the game by a fluke, mustered strong at a recent General Meeting of the Corporation, and had an open fight about it. They relied upon the construction of the Municipal Act, and the importance of a definite settlement in a matter which practically was to decide whether gratuities to collecting sarkars were legal or otherwise, their opponents depending on the Benthamite doctrine of the unprofitableness of the discussion. We make this summary out of the meagre reports which the daily papers published of the debate, but we are assured by a gentleman who was present at the meeting that it is substantially correct. The result of the debate was a resolution declaring the Collector to be a servant of the Corporation to the extent that his contract made him so. This was practically a compromise. It saved the *amour propre* of the two contending parties. The malcontents may now say that they have carried their point, and got the Collector declared as a servant of the Corporation—a position which he was most unwilling to submit to, and the official party has the satisfaction to know that what they contended for has been practically attained. This has, however, left unsolved the only question which the ratepayers of Calcutta care for. It is notorious that the poorer ratepayers are subject to a heavy tax in the way of gratuities or forbearance money, and it would have been something if it had been authoritatively declared that it was criminal to receive gratuities. Not that such a declaration would have sufficed to put down forbearance money to any material extent, but it would have been a satisfaction to know that in the eye of the law gratuities were wrong, and if the fact could be proved in the Police court it would make the receiver of such money liable to punishment. The city fathers have willed it otherwise.

#### A CASE OF ZOOLUM.

WE ARE loth to notice the doings of our political officers in Native Courts. There is always a dearth of reliable data to go by in regard to such matters. The Foreign Office is peculiarly reticent in this respect, and usually there is such an amount of intrigue going on in Native Courts that the risk of misrepresentation is always great.

Under the circumstances a resigned reliance on the wisdom of our political is, for publicists, the best course to follow. There are cases, however, of a purely personal character which concern not the policy of Government, but considerations of self-respect and private rights which cannot always be treated with that spirit of resignation, and matters become very vexatious when high-born ladies are made the victims of high-handed or cruel treatment. Human nature rebels under such circumstances, and it is impossible to indulge in the quiet, resigned, unmoved torpor of lotus-eating. The rumours which prompt such annoyance may be false, but it is necessary for those who are concerned to show that they are false, and not for the public to take for granted that they are so. The public of England had no definite proof that Constable Emdacott was wrong, or that Miss Cass was all that she represented herself to be, but a question of wrongdoing having been raised it could not rest content with the lotus-eating spirit of the Home Secretary, and insisted upon an enquiry. We here can only act in the same way. We vouch not for facts; we pronounce no one guilty; we should be the last to see any one unjustly suffer; but evil rumours having been set afloat we claim an enquiry. The case to which we now specially refer is that of Her Highness the Begam of Bhupal. A local contemporary announces that that lady has of late been subjected to a course of treatment which is of a highly oppressive character. It is said we know not with what truth, that she was pre-emptorily called upon by the agent, of the Governor General, Sir Lepel Griffin, to drop the emblem of her modesty, one to which Indian ladies generally and Muhammadan ladies in particular are so ardently attached, and to appear in an open Durbar of Sir Lepel without her veil, and actually obliged to do so. And as if this was not enough, she was grossly insulted at the Durbar by Sir Lepel denouncing the conduct of her husband. It was all right and proper for the Paramount Power to remove that husband from his official post, and to degrade him by depriving him of his title, since that Power, in its wisdom, thought such a course necessary or expedient for the good of the state. It was the sole judge in the matter, and it exercised its discretion in the way it thought proper, and we have nothing to do with it for the present. But we can perceive no connexion with that and the upbraiding of the deposed man's wife in open Durbar for the sins of her husband, while she is still recognised as the *de jure* and *de facto* sovereign in her own dominion. Let us change the venue; let us for a moment suppose that after deposing Napoleon III, Emperor William in a grand Court held at Versailles, invited Empress Eugenie thereto, and lectured her on the enormity of the conduct of her husband, and the grossness of the conduct would at once be apparent. Happily the grand old Emperor is too noble a chevalier to be capable of so outrageous an act. And what is true of him, is true of every gentleman in Europe. In India, however, we live in a different climate, and our gallant Knights, spurred and belted though they be, cannot, when dealing with Indian women, always realize the duty of their profession. The newspaper from which we take the above instance of cruel treatment, ekes it out with several others. It says, that on one occasion the lady was severely taken to task for having written a complimentary reply to a friendly letter from General Daly, who was at one time a Resident in her court, but at the time of writing his letter had long retired from the service, and was in England. Sir Lepel was not satisfied until he got from the Lady an attested copy of her letter to the General. It may be necessary for the sake of discipline to prevent prisoners in a jail to correspond with outsiders; but the idea of subjecting a reigning sovereign in her own dominion to the same discipline seems to us preposterous. On another occasion the Lady sent a *kharita* for the Viceroy, but Sir Lepel declined to forward it. Information was on two occasions communicated to Sir Lepel by his spies that the lady had sent *kharitas* to the Viceroy, and she was thereupon treated with severe reprimands, which were withdrawn only when she proved that she had not sent any such document to the Viceroy. We repeat that we have no information of our own on the subject of which we write. We depend entirely upon

our contemporary, and would be glad indeed if we were placed in a position to contradict them; but we do think the charges are of serious moment and call for enquiry. We claim that the same measure of consideration may be shewn to the feeling of an Indian Princess that has been shown to that of an English seamstress.

#### MEDICAL REGISTRATION.

THE *Englishman* is jubilant in noticing that the resolution to apply for a Medical Registration Act was carried unanimously at the last meeting of the Calcutta Medical Society. We should have been surprised had the case been otherwise. Dr. Birch, the mover of the resolution, had taken it up avowedly to signalize the year of his Deanship of the Faculty of Medicine and to promote the welfare of the junior members of the service to which he belonged, and the members of the Society were either his colleagues, the tutors of the aforesaid junior members, or the junior members themselves. It would have been all but impossible, therefore, for any dissension arising out of such a proposition. It is not often that in these hard days of struggle for existence, we meet with people who do not know which side of their bread is buttered, and the members of the Society are educated men who know thoroughly which is which. It is worthy of note, however, that at the last meeting the utility of the resolution was openly challenged by several members, and one of them, Dr. Balaichand Sen, denounced the whole affair as much ado about nothing. There was of course the usual amount of balderdash about the abundance of trained medical advice in the metropolis, its cheapness, and the danger to human life from empirical practice; but they are utterly beneath notice. The only argument we have heard urged, and which seems to have some substance in it, is that if by dint of registration the profession could secure a monopoly it would so thrive as to secure a full supply. The legal profession, it is said, has not suffered by the operation of the Legal Practitioners' Act; it is even more crowded now than it was when the act had not been passed; and in all probability such would likewise be the case in the medical profession. There is, however, no parallelism in the two cases. Certain courts will not permit other than a selected few to practise before them, and the courts may well do that without any serious injury to any one. The same cannot be said of medical practitioners, who appear in no court but by the bedside of their patients, who select their medical advisers according to their own knowledge, experience, whim, or caprice, and who cannot be controlled except by an amount of espionage which would be a positive curse to society. The necessity and expediency of a law has to be judged from its utility, but nothing has been set forth by the advocates of legislation to show that any, the slightest good can be derived by a law of the kind proposed. In England the medical Registration law has now been in operation for several years, and it has not produced the slightest diminution in the amount of empiricism prevailing in that country. On the contrary, judging from the number of quack medicines daily coming into vogue there, we are strongly tempted to believe that quackery is now infinitely more rampant there, than before. Certain it is that no medical man of orthodox practice has earned a fraction of the fortune which fell to the lot of that prince of empirics, Mr. Holloway of the Pill and Ointment renown. Morison's Pill has gone out of fashion now, but at one time it ran neck and neck with Holloway's Pills, and for one that has fallen into disfavour a thousand competitors have come to the fore. There is no means of putting them down, and in many many instances it would be a positive injury to society to put them down. Many quack medicines are now largely recommended by orthodox practitioners, whose predecessors would have been horrified at the idea of accepting quack medicines from notorious charlatans. And if quack medicines cannot be suppressed, empiricism must flourish, and the proposed law must prove a dead letter. The good that we can at present expect from it is that Dr. Birch will have signalized his deanship by getting an Act passed. The harm that will flow from it will depend upon the terms of the

law, but we cannot enumerate them until we see the prayer of the memorial which a committee of the Society has undertaken to prepare. If all the practitioners of the Indian healing art be excluded from the purview of the law, and only the unlicensed practitioners of the European art be subjected to it, the effect will not at all be felt for good or evil. The race of the old *Mistree* of our childhood who, in his huge turban and long cloth chudder, used to charm us by the display of his many-chambered tin box filled with cerates and salves of all the colours of the rainbow, and set us agog by the exhibition of his *tintinis* (tinctures) is now extinct, and we have no sympathy for the vile compounders who give us quinine adulterated with arrow-root. We cannot, however, omit to notice one phase of the question which appears to us as singular. Nine years ago Dr. Mahendranath Sarkar, a homœopath, was elected a member of the Faculty of Medicine of the Calcutta University, and thereupon the whole of the Faculty threatened to resign—if they could not get him removed by an order of the Senate; they could not think of the idea of sitting in Committee with the professor of so detested an art as Homœopathy. The debate ran high, and the most virulent passions were brought to bear upon the discussion. Among the medical gentlemen who took part in that quarrel were Dr. Partridge, Dr. Payne, Dr. Waller, Dr. Palmer, Dr. King, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Macleod, Dr. Beatson, Dr. Charles, Dr. Cayley, Dr. Lewis, and Dr. Cunningham. They had at a meeting of their Faculty formally resolved to say 'that they were unable to associate themselves as a Faculty of Medicine with a member who professes and practises Homœopathy.' Their opposition was so strong that Dr. Mahendralal Sarkar could only save himself from the disgrace of being expelled from the Faculty by the skin of his teeth, i. e. by resignation. It is gratifying to note that that feeling of professional jealousy has now died away, and Dr. Macleod and his professional friends have now not only no objection to accept him as a Member of the Medical Society, but to associate with him in Committee for drawing out a memorial in defence of their profession. This is a great gain. We wonder if Holloway had he been living here, could have been honored with the same mark of consideration.

#### LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

AYUB KHAN, with his followers, has escaped from Persian surveillance, and is now believed to be in Russian territory. His destination is said to be Herat. All is reported to be quiet at the latter place; but there is more under the surface than is apparent to the naked eye. Ayub Khan would be a dangerous instrument in the hands of the Russian officials.

THE Amir is reported to be satisfied with the arrangements made by the British Government with regard to the Afghan Boundary settlement. He has matters of greater importance to consider now than the addition to, or reduction from, a few hundred miles of desert land to his dominions. What with failing health, and the hydra-headed rebellion, with which his very existence is threatened, he has no thoughts to bestow on the Frontier question.

THE National League is about to be proclaimed in Ireland. There is great excitement in the country, and the Nationalists are determined to carry on their work, in spite of the proclamation. Mr. Gladstone moved in the House of Commons that sanction of the House be not granted, stating that no adequate necessity had arisen for taking such a step. Boycotting, he said, was certainly to be deprecated, but it was unquestionable that great benefits were conferred by the League on the people. There was a warm debate over the question, and the Chief Secretary for Ireland said that the League only labours to destroy the landlords. Mr. Gladstone's motion has been rejected.

PRINCE Ferdinand of Bulgaria has already to face with serious difficulties in forming his Ministry. The great enthusiasm which was manifested by the Bulgarians when his election

was announced, and the warm receptions he met with from the people, led to the idea that he would at any rate be supported by his liege-men in his administration. But his inability to form a Ministry shows that the leading men of his kingdom stand aloof from him. This is a serious matter. Though England and the Porte have acknowledged him, Germany and France have set their faces against him, and his position now is beset with danger on every side.

THE Municipality of Bankipore made a modest request to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, for granting them half a lakh of rupees for carrying out their drainage works. 'No funds' of course was His Honor's reply; but in giving this reply he humorously alluded to the *touching confidence* with which the request was made; but he pointed out that no details were furnished of any sort, nor were any promises made of local support. His Honor's humour must have taken the good people of Bankipore by surprise, as they still, we suppose, have immense faith in the *ma-bap* theory of Government. According to this theory, the relations of parents and children are guided by 'touching confidence' alone, and the children seldom say what they could do themselves. They want their parents to do everything for them.

THE *Sir John Lawrence* enquiry extended over twenty seven days. We are glad to hear that it has ended at last. At the sitting of the Commission on Thursday last, the President intimated that 'he would prepare his report to Government, and read it orally in public a fortnight hence.'

WE deeply regret to announce the death of Babu Ramdas Sen of Berhampore. He was well known as a liberal Zemindar whose delight it was to improve the condition of his tenantry. His love of letters won for him the esteem of all his countrymen. His historical researches are of European celebrity. He was fond of travel, and of studying the social institutions of different countries. He was constantly surrounded by the *pandits* of our country, and spent most of his time in discussing literary questions. The amiability of his temper endeared him to all who came in contact with him.

WE lately published a suggestion of Dr. Francis, Surgeon General, for the destruction of poisonous snakes in India. The plan proposed is that rewards should be granted by Government for the destruction of snakes' eggs. At first sight this appears very taking, for nothing can be simpler than cracking eggs; but for all that it is entirely futile. Most of the poisonous snakes of India are not oviparous, and they lay no eggs for the learned Doctor to crack. Out of a total of 21 families of snakes in India seventeen are innocuous, and only four are poisonous. These latter include 15 genera under the four groups of the *Elapidae*, the *Hydrophidæ*, the *Viperidae*, and the *Crotalidae*—the first two belonging to the Colubrine group, and the last two to the Viperine. Now the Vipers are so called because they are viviparous, the name being a corruption of the word viviparous. Of the first group the *Hydrophidæ*, or watersnakes, are likewise viviparous, and only a few of the *Elapidae* are oviparous. Our *Keutia*, *Gokhura*, *Kharis*, *Sankarachur*, *Krait*, *Bora* and others are all viviparous, and they will be left untouched by Dr. Francis's scheme. It is remarkable that the learned Doctor should have overlooked so important a fact, when devising his scheme.

UNDER the very sensational heading of 'the Shade of the British Upas,' the *Pioneer* devotes its slashing leader of the 23rd instant to an examination of Mr. Dadabhoi Nowroji's latest political utterances. To refute the argument that the bulk of the people of India are insufficiently fed, the redoubtable editor says: "It is no doubt painfully true that multitudes of the native population go through life on insufficient food; but what Mr. Nowroji does not remember is that the land supports an enormously larger population than it did twenty years ago; that in Bengal, for example, there are three times as many mouths

to fill as there were in 1872." As an argument it is doubtless crushing; only it is a figment of fancy, with nothing more tangible for a substratum than an innate hardness of diction. The population of Bengal has multiplied threefold in fourteen years? How could it do otherwise without leaving the Allahabad critic in the lurch for an argument? And this is the churl who in season and out of season comes to lecture the vernacular press on the propriety of allegiance to truth and moderation. Well may his opponents say, 'Doctor, Heal thyself.'

THE Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue has been greatly scandalized by the publication of a para. in the *Indian Daily News* regarding some secrets of his office, and in his feeling of vexation has published the following office orders:—

"A para. having appeared in one of the daily newspapers which could only have been written on information supplied somehow or other from the Board's Office, notice is hereby given to every one in the Board's Office, in both sections, that until the individual who is in any way connected with the furnishing of this information from this office, is produced before me, and states fully the part he has had in furnishing this and other official information during the last two months to any newspaper, the Board's orders under which (1) Office closes early on Saturdays, (2) certain half holidays are allowed, (3) casual leave is granted, are suspended until further orders.

"This order will have effect from this date.

"Superintendent will have this paper circulated and initialled and returned to me, and will take the necessary steps to have the orders carried out.

C. E. BUCKLAND,

Offg. Secretary, Board of Revenue,  
16 August, 1887.

We can well sympathise with Mr. Buckland for his annoyance at seeing the secrets of his office oozing out; but we are bound to say that the means he has adopted to prevent the evil is totally unworthy of him as a gentleman, and of the dignity of the department of which he is the head. He could not have adopted a more reprehensible course for the purpose. There is a degree of pettiness in his action which is much to be regretted. And he must blame himself for the scathing remarks which his indiscreetness has brought on him. The *Statesman* is quite right when it says: 'It is difficult to say whether the injustice or the meanness of such paltry conduct is the more noticeable. Mr. BUCKLAND reads this paragraph in the *Indian Daily News*, and boiling over with indignation at the idea of any subordinate in his office venturing to give the public the very mild news contained therein, issues at once an irritating and vexatious order to abolish a series of trifling indulgences that wiser and more generous men have granted before him. And the very same man who issues this inconsiderate and vexatious circular, only to distress and humiliate a large number of men whose misfortune it is to be temporarily under his orders, will straightway write a leading article for the *Englishman*, in which he will communicate official information as freely to the paper as he pleases. We are not blaming him for doing so, for we should be glad to see every man of ability in the Service, assisting the public press in this way. It is the paltry and unworthy punishing of subordinates for doing what neither Mr. BUCKLAND nor any other Civilian scruples to do himself, that provokes our just resentment. The man who penned this paragraph and sent it to the *Indian Daily News*, did no more than what is done by Mr. BUCKLAND himself and by scores of Civilian officers all over the country. But he belongs to a class who can not, or will not, see that it is conduct of this paltry order that is everywhere alienating the people from us. We truly need a special department of the State to counteract the mischief narrow and selfish natures are doing our rule all over India.'

We have received from our much-esteemed friend Nawab Abdul Latif, Bahadur, two interesting brochures. One of them is entitled 'a Short Account of my humble efforts to Promote Education, specially among the Mahomedans,' and the other 'a Short Account of the Origin and Progress of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta.'

With the modesty characteristic of true goodness, the Nawab qualifies his efforts as 'humble,' but we can unhesitatingly affirm that he deserves for them the highest praise. No Mahomedan gentleman has, within the last fifty years, laboured more assiduously, more unremittingly, or with greater success than he has done for the good of his co-religionists. He has taken part in every useful movement in Calcutta, and his Literary Society is the parent of a score of useful associations in different parts of India. He has travelled much, and everywhere his efforts were directed to the promotion of education and advancement of learning. He had a heavy stolid mass to move, but he never flinched from labour, and his labours have borne excellent fruit. The history of a life so usefully employed cannot fail to be interesting, and the only thing we have to complain of in this connexion is that the account given is 'short' and not as long as it should be. An autobiography of the good Nawab would be an acquisition of great value, for few can from personal knowledge throw more light on the social history of Calcutta during the last forty years than he can. We cordially wish him long life and health, and hope that he will some day favor the public with the kind of work we suggest.

OUR contemporary of the *Englishman* spared no pains to cast ridicule on the agitation which was got up in Calcutta, in regard to *ghi* adulteration, but now that a similar agitation has been got up in England, its London correspondent is more virulent against what he calls, the disgusting 'buter substitute.' The question is whether the American "notion" margarine should be labelled *margarine* or *butterine*. The risk in the latter name comes from the fact of its being liable to be printed with the first six letters so large and the last three in small type, thus BUTTER—ine. The difference between this and the sale of tallow and lard for *ghi* is vast, but our contemporary could not perceive it. They best can describe the pain who feel it.

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## Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette, —25th August, 1887.

GENERAL.—Babu Dano Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in the District of Gya, in supersession of Government notification, dated the 13th May 1887, vesting Babu Rai Kshore Narain Singh with powers of a Collector in Gya under the Act above-mentioned.

Babu Kustori Lal, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the sudder station of the District of Sarun.

Mr R H Anderson, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Birbhum, acted in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and deputy Collectors on the 16th and 17th July 1887.

Babu Kamud Nath Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ghatal, Midnapore, is vested with the powers of a collector under Act X of 1870 in the District of Midnapore.

Monsi Shere Ali, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the sudder station of the District of Shahabad, with effect from the 15th June 1887.

Babu Kristo chunder chuckerbutty, Temporary Sub-Deputy collector, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for one month, under rule 2, section 138 of the Civil Leave code, with effect from the 22nd September next, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Babu Gour Sunker Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Nowgong, Rajshaye, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Tipperah.

Babu Surend chunder Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is transferred to Rajshaye, and is appointed to have charge of the Nowgong Sub-division of that District.

Mr. Syud Nural Hada Assistant Magistrate and collector Mozaffarpore, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Shahabad.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Joint-Magistrate and deputy collector Serampore, Hugly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on leave of Mr. A. Forbes, until further orders.

Mr. F. W. Duke, Assistant Magistrate and collector, Durbhanga, is transferred to Hugly and is appointed to have charge of the Serampore Sub-division of that district during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. G. Ritchie or until further orders.

Mr. Nunda Krishna Bose, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy collector, Backergunge, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakhally, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. H. M. Gun, or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 16th instant appointing Mr. G. W. Place to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakhally.

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#### NOTICE.

Is hereby given that the Jubilee Sanitarium at Darjeeling for all sections of the Native community will be provisionally opened from 1st September 1887, for about three months. Early applications for admittance to be made to the undersigned, as only a limited number can be accommodated at present. Applications recommended by Medical men will have preference.

MOHENDRA NATH BANERJI,

Honorary Secretary,

Jubilee Sanitarium Community.

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|                        |                                                                                                                      |                                                                     | Rent                                       | Cesses | Dak Tax. |          |
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Manager.

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| Do. Pekoe Souchong ...          | " 0 10 0   |
| Do. Souchong ...                | " 0 8 6    |
| Our Specialite "Campoi" ...     | " 0 7 0    |

In Quarter lb. Tins.

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| Do. Pekoe ...                   | " 0 6 0   |
| Do. Pekoe Souchong ...          | " 0 5 0   |
| Do. Souchong ...                | " 0 4 3   |
| Our Specialite "Campoi" ...     | " 0 3 6   |

Empty tins returned will be credited for if in good condition, at 6 pie per ½ lb. tin and 3 pie per ¼ lb. tin.

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Managing Agents,

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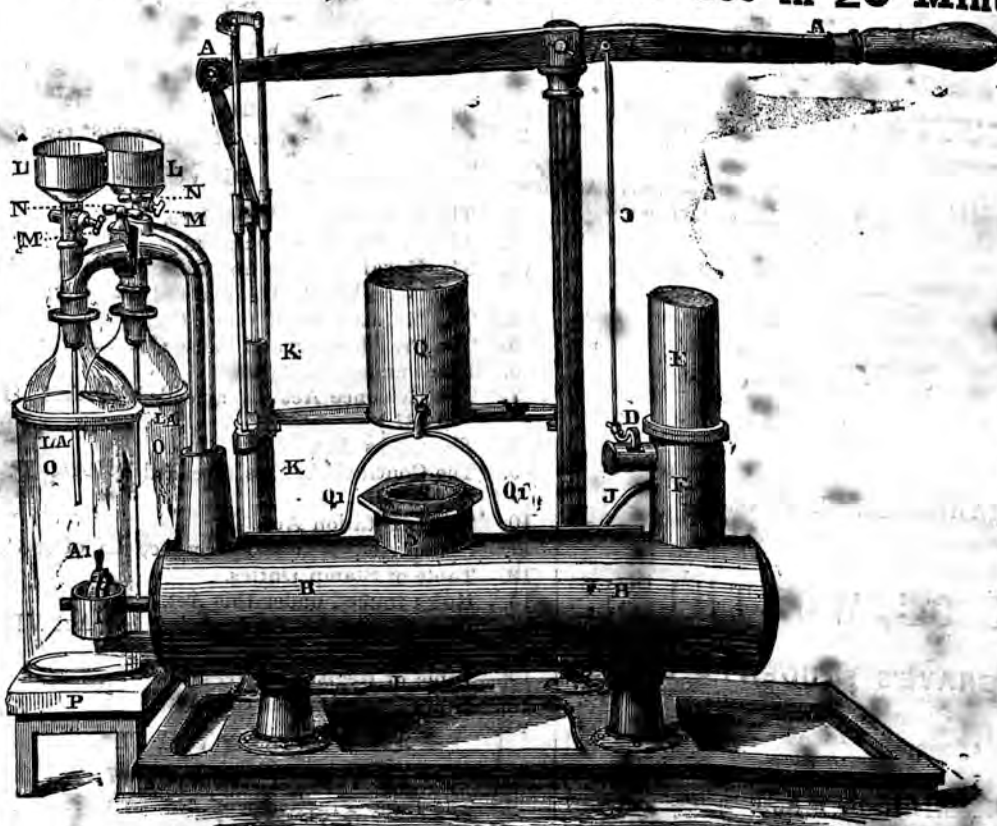
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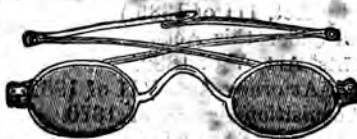
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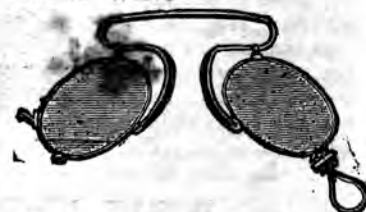
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